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## Press release : 2008 : 01 : 08 : Army ROTC at USF St. Pete Starts Second Semester

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## Army ROTC at USF St. Pete Starts Second Semester



Filed under [eNews Newsletter](#), [Guidance Matters - Guidance Counselor's Newsletter](#) on Tuesday, January 08, 2008 by Author: Melanie Marquez.

**(St. Petersburg, Fla.) January 7, 2008** – Continuing into its second semester with 15 Cadets, the Army ROTC program at USF St. Petersburg is positioned to grow and expand its opportunities for students who desire to become leaders.

The program, which started in Fall 2007, continues to grow its foundation and connection with various schools in Pinellas County. During the Spring semester Cadets will prepare for summer leadership training.

"It will be a very enriching and rewarding semester for Cadets," said Major Scott Macksam, director of the program at USF St. Petersburg.

Cadets participate in physical training three times a week while taking courses in Military Science and Leadership. The program, open to students at USF St. Petersburg, Clearwater Christian College, St. Petersburg College, Eckerd College and USF Sarasota-Manatee, develops and qualifies graduates into becoming commissioned officers in the U.S. Army. Cadets can opt to go into Active Duty, Army National Guard or Army Reserve once being commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

"Students can expect to develop and understand the culture of our Army," Major Macksam said. "It's a transformation when you enroll from civilian to soldier to leader to officer. Once students are in the program we really try to take care of them. They can expect to get in shape and learn about leadership, not only in the Army, but the world today."

Starting in the 2008-2009 academic year, the Army ROTC program at USF St. Petersburg will expand its offerings to third- and fourth-year classes. Participants can qualify for full tuition scholarships and money to help pay for housing, books and other college expenses. The Cadet Corps in all of USF ranks in the Top 10 percent of ROTC programs nationwide and commissions more than 20 officers a year. By 2012, USF will commission 30 officers a year.

"We're training officers and leaders, but they're students first," Macksam said. "Once they graduate and commission they're coming out of college with a degree and an officer's commission, which puts them at a higher level of experience and gives them an edge in today's competing world."

For more information contact Major Scott Macksam at [smacksam@arotc.usf.edu](mailto:smacksam@arotc.usf.edu) or (727) 873-4730.

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